




Wyoming Department of Education

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MEMORANDUM NO. 2009-090

TO: School District Superintendents

FROM: Jim McBride, Ed.D. 

DATE: June 5, 2009

SUBJECT: Student WISER ID Transcript Requirement

IMPORTANT NOTICE – COMPLIANCE MANDATORY

As stated in State Superintendent Memorandum No. 2007-118 of June 22, 2007, the state-assigned unique student identifier, or the WISER ID, must be included on all transcripts submitted to Wyoming post-secondary institutions.

The WISER ID (Wyoming Integrated Statewide Education Record Identification) system was deployed in the fall of 2005 to enable the Department to meet state and federal reporting requirements. Hathaway Scholarship Program (HSP) longitudinal studies, which are legislatively mandated, cannot be performed without the presence of a WISER ID on the transcript of each Wyoming graduating student. The WISER ID serves as the only link between a student's secondary and post-secondary performance.

The most recent Hathaway Scholarship recipient data collection submitted to the WDE by the post-secondary institutions showed a WISER ID submission rate of less than 25%. In other words, less than one out of every four Hathaway post-secondary student academic records had a WISER ID associated with it.

In order for the community colleges and the University to include a WISER ID with every Hathaway student record submitted to the WDE, the school districts are required to deliver this data, clearly indicated on a transcript, with every transcript sent to the post-secondary institutions.

Use of the Wyoming Transcript Center (WTC) to send transcripts to other entities guarantees the inclusion of the WISER ID. Data extractions from local Student Information Systems (SIS) contain the WISER ID; hence, it becomes part of the WTC transcript file automatically.

Regular use of the WTC for sending transcripts will resolve the WISER ID submission problem. Not using the WTC to transmit student transcripts to post-secondary institutions does not relieve the district from the responsibility of submitting WISER IDs.

Beginning with the 2009-10 school year, failure to provide a WISER ID, clearly indicated within a transcript submitted to an eligible HSP post-secondary institution, will have accreditation consequences. As mentioned above, this requirement is driven by law, and the WDE must meet its HSP reporting obligation.

The WDE will continue to provide technical assistance to districts facing obstacles in ensuring the delivery of WISER IDs within student transcripts. For questions regarding the WISER ID and the WTC, please contact Geir Solvang, Project Analyst, at 307.777.6218 or gsolva@educ.state.wy.us.

JM:gs:tw

Cc: Thomas Buchanan, President, University of Wyoming
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Tom Armstrong, President, Eastern Wyoming College
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High School Counselors
Post-Secondary Admissions Officers
Post-Secondary Financial Aid Officers
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